

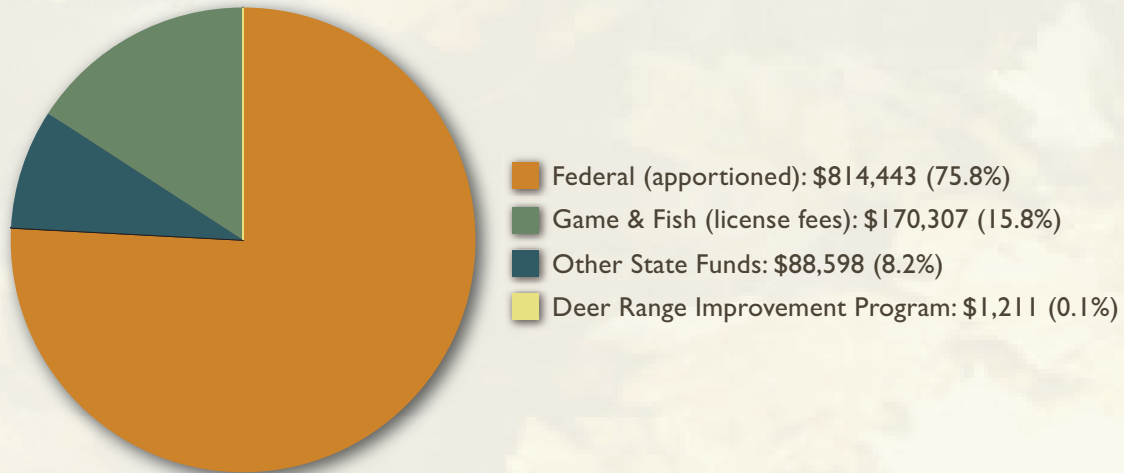
# Land Acquisition and Land Management

A full-page photograph of a forest during autumn. The trees are covered in bright yellow, orange, and red foliage. Two dark green evergreen trees stand out in the foreground, one on the left and one on the right. The background is a dense canopy of colorful deciduous trees. The overall scene is bright and colorful, capturing the peak of fall foliage.



## Fiscal Year 2010

### Land Acquisition and Administration Expenditures by Fund Source



#### The Wildlife Division invested:

- 6,503 hours on land matters.

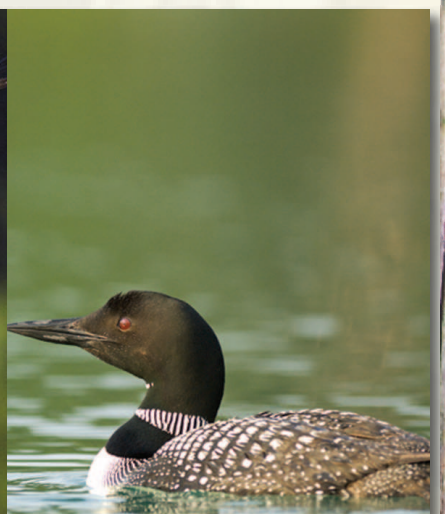
#### In FY 2010, the Wildlife Division acquired eight parcels of land totaling 506 acres. Acquisitions included:

- 170 acres – consisting of coastal marsh and 3,900 feet of frontage on the St. Mary's River – within the Munuscong Wildlife Management Area in Chippewa County. The parcel includes mixed hardwood and conifer forest and will provide opportunities for deer and waterfowl hunting and fishing;
- 160 acres in two parcels of winter deer yard in north-central Iron County;
- 80 acres in the Shiawassee River State Game Area, currently in crop land, that is surrounded by state land on three sides;
- 59 acres in the Allegan State Game Area with opportunities for deer, turkey and waterfowl hunting. The parcel includes a half-mile of Kalamazoo River frontage, which will allow fishing and trapping and is a staging area for lake sturgeon;
- 32 acres in two parcels within the Erie State Game Area, including a 29-acre parcel of mostly cropland that could be restored to lake-plain prairie and three acres that will provide a new access site to another block of state land;
- Five acres on Beaver Island that is surrounded by state land and will provide additional hunting opportunities; and
- Staff assisted with the purchase of 1,635 acres of diverse, quality wildlife habitat on state forest land in Roscommon County.

Land management requires much time and attention from staff. Challenges include encroachment on state lands through development of adjacent private land; monitoring the activities of utility companies in rights of way to ensure their activities are compatible with management objectives; and county road-decertification or abandonment requests. Numerous investigations for potential trespass are made each year, and area managers continue to discover attempts by people to post public land as privately owned.



The Wildlife Division played an important role in the acquisition of a 1,635-acre parcel of state forest land in Roscommon County that contains a variety of quality wildlife habitat. The diverse tract features 1,200 acres of wetlands, 250 acres of forested uplands, 185 acres of open water and 400 acres of deer wintering yard. These areas support a wide variety of wildlife species – including deer, bear, bobcat and snowshoe hare – as well as excellent waterfowl habitat. The Wildlife Division plans to manage the habitat by maintaining and enhancing the site's natural features, with an emphasis on preserving and enhancing the deer winter yards and habitat for known species of concern, such as bald eagles, great blue herons, osprey and loons.



Top: Pictured from left to right: staff evaluates Pigeon River State Forest; staff discusses easement issues at Manistee County Airport; bald eagle  
Bottom: Pictured from left to right: jack pine planting; osprey; loon